

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An information processing apparatus which has a graphic user interface adopting windows and which is capable of selecting and operating any of a plurality of application programs, said information processing apparatus comprising:

image pickup means for picking up an image of an object;

detecting means for detecting operations performed by a user; and

controlling means for controlling an application program so that said application program is activated to pick up said image when said detecting means detects operations.

2. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said detecting means detects a first and a second operation performed by said user; and

wherein said controlling means activates a window for said application program for picking up said image if said detecting means detects said first operation, said controlling means further causing said image pickup means to pick up said image when said detecting means detects said second operation.

3. An information processing apparatus according

to claim 2, wherein said first operation is a half-push button operation and said second operation is a full-push button operation.

an 4. An information processing method for use with a graphic user interface adopting windows and capable of selecting and operating any of a plurality of application programs, said information processing method comprising the steps of:

picking up an image of an object;

detecting operations performed by a user; and

controlling an application program so that said application program is activated to pick up said image when operations are detected in said detecting step.

5. An information processing method according to claim 4, wherein said detecting step detects a first and a second operation performed by said user; and

wherein said controlling step activates a window for said application program for picking up said image if said detecting step detects said first operation, said controlling step further causing said image pickup step to pick up said image when said detecting step detects said second operation.

6. An information processing method according to claim 5, wherein said first operation is a half-push

button operation and said second operation is a full-push button operation.

al 7. A storage medium for storing a program in a manner readable by an information processing apparatus which has a graphic user interface adopting windows and which is capable of selecting and operating any of a plurality of application programs, said program allowing said information processing apparatus to execute an information processing method comprising the steps of:

picking up an image of an object;

detecting operations performed by a user; and

controlling an application program so that said application program is activated to pick up said image when operations are detected in said detecting step.

8. A storage medium according to claim 7, wherein said detecting step detects a first and a second operation performed by said user; and

wherein said controlling step activates a window for said application program for picking up said image if said detecting step detects said first operation, said controlling step further causing said image pickup step to pick up said image when said detecting step detects said second operation.

9. A storage medium according to claim 8, wherein

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said first operation is a half-push button operation and
said second operation is a full-push button operation.

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